



HOUSING FUND GUIDELINES

Transition Year Stability Resource (TYSR) funds

Up to \$2,000 is available for each participant for support in moving to community-based supported housing. TYSR is modeled after the Money Follow the Person Transition Year Stability Funds Demonstration Service. TYSR is not an entitlement program and approvals / payments are based on available funding.

TYSR funding is only available during a person's transition year and must not be identified / used as part of a person's ongoing support plan.

TYSR will provide up to \$2,000.00 per person for one-time start-up costs such as:

- Utility deposits
- Security deposit
- Basic small appliances
- essential furnishings
- household items such as towels, sheets, dishes
- one-time home preparation: pest eradication, cleaning, allergen control;
- application fee
- criminal record check (one)
- credit check (one)
- moving expense
- Obtaining required documents: birth certificate, state ID

TYSR funding is intended to be flexible to adequately meet a person's specific living needs. If an individual has a specific transition need that is not clearly outlined above, the LME/MCO is encouraged to ask for clarification. The individual should review his or her budget and prioritize expenses to maximize the benefit of the transition funds. If the funds are not sufficient, the individual is encouraged to seek assistance from other organizations.

If the landlord is asking for first and or last month rent as part of the security deposit, the amounts should be classified and identified in a manner that facilitates separating the rent portion being paid from TBRA or from a portion of the individuals calculated

Community Living Assistance (CLA) payments monthly payment from the security deposit amount being paid from TYSR funds.

TYSR funding **shall not** be used to cover:

- ongoing living expenses (such as rent, bill payment);
- previous debt, judgments or liens
- Entertainment items such as televisions, stereos, etc. (except with clinical justification from a licensed clinician, only after other necessities have been provided, and with a spending cap of \$150)

All tangible items (furnishings, etc.) acquired using this funding become the personal property of the participant.

All requests for Transition Year Stability Resources must be approved by DHHS.

The Transition Year Stability Resource Funding may be accessed once a housing slot is approved and up to 1 year after tenancy is established. If the LME/MCO is paying the expense upfront, the LME/MCO shall submit all invoices for TYSR funds to the Department's contractor within 30 days after expenditure.

The maximum expenditure of \$2000 shall not be exceeded for any individual.

Community Living Assistance payments (CLA)

CLA is intended to assist individuals who do not qualify, or have not yet qualified, for SA-IH to assist with ongoing community living health and safety expenses, including rent. CLA is not an entitlement program and approvals / payments are based on available funding.

CLA payments can be classified into two categories of funding:

- (1) Ongoing CLA because the individual is not qualified for SA when he/she is not living in an Adult Care Home
- (2) Temporary CLA because the individual is changing Medicaid home county and/or SA-IH payments are likely to be delayed.

Anyone applying for initial or temporary CLA shall have a verified application on file for Special Assistance – In Home (SA-IH) prior to CLA approval or payment. Individuals receiving ongoing CLA payments shall have a SA-IH denial letter on file. If SA-IH is approved, the CLA stops once those payments begin. If there is an overlap of CLA and SA-IH funding, the individual must pay back the excess CLA funds to Department's contractor.

CLA is intended to support the individual in a community setting by providing funding to meet health and safety needs including rental assistance for permanent housing but an individual may use his CLA funds for temporary housing if necessary. Use of CLA for temporary housing shall be time limited and shall require DHHS approval every 7 days that the individuals occupies temporary housing. Justification as to why temporary housing is needed, including evidence of permanent housing efforts, shall be provided in writing at every review.

The combination of the individual's income plus CLA shall not exceed the rate set by the legislature for the SA-IH Program. Currently, the rate is set at \$1228 per person, per month.

Tenancy Based Rental Assistance – (TBRA)

Tenancy based rental assistance is to be used as rental assistance, in an amount up to \$360 per person per month. TBRA is not an entitlement program and approvals / payments are based on available funding. TBRA includes vouchers of up to \$360 first month and up to \$360 last month rent if required as part of transition and as specified in the tenant lease.

b3 Community Transitions Funding

Each LME – MCO should evaluate the availability of (b)(3) Community Transition funds to assist in funding needs.

Emergency Funds and Barriers to Housing

Additional guidance on funds for emergency situations and other identified barriers will be forthcoming in the near future.